

# RECEIPTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS AT CHICAGO, 1945

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The receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products in the Chicago Wholesale Market during 1945 totaled 77,669,000 pounds. This figure exceeded the 1944 total of 66,000,000 pounds by 17 percent. The total for 1945 was, however, 8 percent less than the 1943 total of 84,034,000 pounds.



CHICAGO MARKET - TYPICAL SIDEWALK SCENE

Of the total volume received during 1945 (Table 1), fresh-water species accounted for 50 percent; salt-water species, 38 percent; and shellfish and miscellaneous items, 12 percent. Fresh-water receipts gained approximately 2 percent over those of 1944, and salt-water fish

and shellfish rose 46 and 13 percent, respectively, during the same period.

The number of items received, divided into the classifications fresh, frozen, filleted, etc., totaled 192. These items originated in 48 different areas, including 38 States, 9 Canadian provinces, and Alaska.

Table 1 - Receipts by Types of Fish - 1945 and 1944

Item	Fresh-water fish		Salt-water fish		Shellfish, etc.		Total	
	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%
1945	38,763,386	50	29,783,227	38	9,121,919	12	77,668,532	100
1944	38,132,598	57	20,438,854	31	8,089,016	12	66,660,468	100
Change from 1944	+ 630,788	+2	+9,344,373	+46	+1,032,903	+13	+11,008,064	+17

Of the States (Table 2) which contributed the greatest amount to the total receipts, Wisconsin led with 11 percent, followed by Massachusetts and Michigan with 10 percent each. Washington, with 5 percent, advanced from ninth place in 1944 to fifth place in 1945. Minnesota likewise contributed 5 percent of the total volume. Trailing these States were Ohio with 4 percent; Iowa, Louisiana, and Illinois with 3 percent each, and New York and Mississippi with 2 percent, respectively.

Alaska, credited in Table 2 with direct shipments only, would have been in third place with 10 percent if credit had been given for the 6,048,000 pounds caught in United States waters by American fishermen and shipped in bond through Canada to the United States. This amount, however, was credited to British Columbia.

British Columbia led all States and other Canadian provinces with 14 percent of the total receipts. Only 6 percent of the total receipts, however, were Canadian produced fish. Manitoba was second among Canadian provinces with 8 percent, followed by Nova Scotia with 3 percent.

In 1944, Manitoba led all States and provinces in total pounds delivered (all fresh-water fish).

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Table 2 - Receipts from Major Shipping Sources - 1945

State or Province	1945 volume	Percentage of 1945 receipts						Change from 1944		
	Lbs.	Fresh-water	Salt-water	Shellfish	Domestic	Imported**	Total	Lbs.	%	Principal reason
Wisconsin	8,588,526	22	-	*	16	-	11	+1,030,858	+ 14	+Lake herring, sheepshead
Michigan	7,517,715	19	-	*	14	-	10	+ 284,529	+ 4	+Lake herring, suckers
Massachusetts	7,384,190	*	18	2	14	-	10	+2,085,378	+ 39	+Cod, haddock, rosefish
Minnesota	4,210,101	11	-	-	8	-	5	+ 824,980	+ 24	+Bullheads, yellow pike
Washington	4,088,871	-	14	*	8	-	5	+2,301,840	+129	+Lingcod, sablefish, salmon
Ohio	2,946,177	8	-	-	6	-	4	+ 139,946	+ 5	+Sheepshead, yellow perch
Iowa	2,573,552	7	-	-	5	-	3	+ 469,142	+ 22	+Carp, sheepshead, buffalo
Louisiana	2,418,525	*	*	27	5	-	3	-1,315,877	- 65	-Shrimp
Illinois	1,997,622	5	-	-	4	-	3	+ 217,129	+ 12	+Carp, buffalofish
Mississippi	1,675,150	-	-	18	3	-	2	+1,183,255	+240	+Shrimp
New York	1,496,101	*	1	13	3	-	2	+ 493,785	+ 49	+Oysters
Alaska	1,468,097	-	5	-	3	-	2	-2,277,571	-291	-Halibut, see British Columbia
British Columbia**	10,869,833	-	36	-	11	20	14	+4,801,136	+ 79	+Halibut, see Alaska
Manitoba	6,321,772	16	-	-	-	26	8	-1,585,215	- 20	-Lake trout, sauger
Nova Scotia	2,067,570	-	7	-	-	8	3	- 96,204	- 4	-Cod, haddock

\*Less than of one percent.

\*\*Includes catch taken by U. S. vessels and shipped through Canada to the U. S. in bond.

Receipts by motor truck during 1945 (Table 3) continued the decline which started in 1944 and were 30 percent below the 1944 figure, which in turn was 22 percent below the 1943 figure.

These declines were largely due to the scarcity of tires, restricted gasoline supplies, and the general lowering of the efficiency of the operating equipment. On the other hand, fish receipts by railway express rose 33 percent and by rail freight, 26 percent over 1944.

Railway express moved 36,800,000 pounds, or 47 percent of the total during 1945, while rail freight handled 30,637,000 pounds, or 40 percent. Truck receipts amounted to 10,231,000 pounds, or 13 percent. In 1944, railway express handled 41 percent; rail freight, 37 percent; and motor truck, 22 percent of the total receipts. The bulk of fishery products of domestic origin was handled by railway express, while the greater portion of the imported varieties was moved by rail freight (Table 4).

During the latter part of the year, several small shipments of highly perishable commodities such as oysters, shrimp, and lobsters were received by air express.

Considerable additional gear entered Great Lakes waters during the last few months of 1945 due to the return of veterans who were formerly part of the fishing crews. Much of this gear was badly in need of repair due to lack of replacement equipment. New gear was very scarce.

During 1945, the four species leading in the Chicago receipts, by volume (fresh and frozen items combined), were halibut, 8,676,000 pounds; lake trout, 6,764,000 pounds; shrimp, 5,605,000 pounds; and whitefish, 5,201,000 pounds. These were followed by salmon, carp, lake herring, cod, and suckers, each with a total of over 3,000,000 pounds.

Table 3 - Receipts by Methods of Transportation - 1945 and 1944

Item	Truck		Express		Freight		Total	
	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%
Classifications:								
All, 1945	10,231,433	13	36,799,898	47	30,537,201	40	77,568,532	100
1944	14,664,285	22	27,650,522	41	24,345,661	37	66,660,468	100
Change from 1944	-4,432,852	-30	+9,149,376	+33	+6,291,540	+26	+11,008,064	+17
Fresh-water, 1945	7,328,268	19	26,257,414	68	5,177,704	13	38,763,386	50
1944	10,037,039	27	21,536,072	56	6,559,487	17	38,132,598	57
Change from 1944	-2,708,771	-27	+4,721,342	+22	-1,381,783	-21	+630,778	+2
Salt-water, 1945	1,571,144	5	7,453,867	25	20,758,216	70	29,783,227	38
1944	2,082,027	10	4,585,424	23	13,771,403	67	20,438,854	31
Change from 1944	-510,883	-25	+2,868,443	+63	+6,986,813	+51	+9,344,373	+46
Shellfish, etc., 1945	1,332,021	15	3,088,617	34	4,701,281	51	9,121,919	12
1944	2,545,219	31	1,529,026	19	4,014,771	50	8,089,016	12
Change from 1944	-1,213,198	-48	+1,559,591	+102	+686,510	+17	+1,032,903	+13
Origin:								
Domestic, 1945	9,915,878	19	28,655,471	54	14,725,589	27	53,296,938	69
1944	13,826,172	30	19,411,997	42	12,709,875	28	45,948,044	69
Change from 1944	-3,910,294	-28	+9,243,474	+48	+2,015,714	+16	+7,348,894	+16
Imported,* 1945	315,555	1	8,144,427	34	15,911,612	65	24,371,594	31
1944	838,113	4	8,238,525	40	11,635,786	56	20,712,424	31
Change from 1944	-522,558	-62	-94,098	-1	+4,275,826	+37	+3,659,170	+18

\*Includes catch taken by United States vessels and shipped through Canada to the United States in bond.

A comparison of the fluctuations of some of the important items reveals that receipts of blue pike fell below those for 1944, as well as those for the two years previous; halibut showed a gain of 9 percent over 1944; lake trout declined 7 percent; shrimp and whitefish declined 3 percent and 12 percent, respectively; while

Table 4 - Receipts by Methods of Transportation - 1945

Item	Truck		Express		Freight		Total	
	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%	Lbs.	%
Classifications:								
All	10,231,433	100	36,799,898	100	30,537,201	100	77,568,532	100
Fresh-water	7,328,268	72	26,257,414	72	5,177,704	17	38,763,386	50
Salt-water	1,571,144	15	7,453,867	20	20,758,216	68	29,783,227	38
Shellfish, etc.	1,332,021	13	3,088,617	8	4,701,281	15	9,121,919	12
Origin:								
Domestic	9,915,878	97	28,655,471	78	14,725,589	48	53,296,938	69
Imported*	315,555	3	8,144,427	22	15,911,612	52	24,371,594	31

\*Includes catch taken by United States vessels and shipped through Canada to the United States in bond.

carp, catfish, buffalofish, lake herring, pickerel, sheepshead, among the fresh-water varieties, and cod, haddock, and whiting, among the salt-water varieties, made important gains (Table 5).

Of the important salt-water varieties from the east coast, cod (all items) gained 46 percent in volume over 1944; haddock (all items) showed a 76 percent increase; hake (all items) advanced 380 percent; mackerel (all items) gained 265 percent. Pollock showed a gain of only 7 percent, but whiting (all items) increased 143 percent. Rosefish, mostly frozen fillets, showed a decline of 26 percent during 1945.

Many west coast seafood items attained greater importance on the local market during 1945 than in any previous year. This was particularly true of rockfish, chiefly fresh and frozen fillets; lingcod, mostly frozen; and frozen sole fillets. Shad and shad roe from the west coast, although not received in large volume, attained fair importance locally. Receipts of shark meat and shark fillets almost ceased toward the latter part of 1945.

Table 5 - Receipts by Important Species - 1945

Species	Percentage change from 1944		Species	Percentage change from 1944	
	Fresh	Frozen		Fresh	Frozen
Blue pike .....	- 56	-	Cod .....	+145*	+ 33*
Buffalofish .....	+ 58	-	Flounder and sole .....	- 7*	+267*
Bullheads .....	+ 11	-	Haddock .....	+517*	- 28*
Carp .....	+ 55	-100	Halibut .....	+ 11	+ 8
Catfish .....	+ 93	-100	Mackerel .....	+176*	+ 94*
Chubs .....	+ 40	-100	Pollock .....	+1700*	- 24*
Lake herring .....	+ 13	- 78*	Rockfish .....	+100*	+409*
Lake trout .....	- 11	+ 12*	Rosefish fillets .....	- 71	- 25
Pickrel .....	+ 40*	- 10*	Sablefish .....	- 49	+ 48*
Sauger .....	- 25*	- 55*	Salmon .....	+ 70	+ 92
Sheepshead .....	+ 44	- 27*	Whiting .....	+1766*	+134*
Smelt .....	+476	-100	Clams .....	+ 12	-
Suckers .....	+ 36*	+ 52*	Lobsters .....	+119	+100
Tullibee .....	- 5	+ 76	Oysters:		
Whitefish .....	- 8	- 16*	Shell .....	+ 86	-
Yellow perch .....	- 6*	- 63	Shucked .....	+ 49	-
Yellow pike .....	- 16*	- 29*	Shrimp .....	-230	+ 69**
			Spiny lobster tails .....	+ 7	- 95

\*Includes fillets

\*\*Includes cooked and peeled shrimp.

Among shellfish items, shrimp was by far the most important, accounting for 61 percent of the total shellfish receipts. Lobster receipts were more than double those for 1944, and receipts of shell and shucked oysters totaled twice the 1944 production. Spiny lobster tails, chiefly from Florida, declined 60 percent below the 1944 receipts.

As in 1944, March was the month of greatest receipts of fresh-water varieties. This was made possible by consistently large receipts of lake trout, whitefish, smelt, and yellow pike. There were also better than average receipts of the above varieties in frozen form.

Salt-water receipts reached their highest point during June. Unusually large receipts of fresh and frozen halibut during that month accounted for 43 percent of all salt-water items. Salt-water receipts remained high from May until November. In 1944, December was the most productive month for salt-water items due to large receipts of frozen halibut and silver and fall salmon.

Shellfish receipts reached their highest total during the month of October. Shrimp, however, which was the leading shellfish item, was received in greatest quantity in the fresh state during August. Frozen shrimp receipts reached their peak during September.

Total receipts of all fresh and frozen fish and shellfish reached their highest figure in June 1945, whereas receipts during 1944 reached their highest point in March. In 1943, May was the month of greatest production.

